

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 INT-08 DRC-01 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /111 W

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R 170850Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3377

INFO CINCPACREP GUAM/TTPI

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

COMTWELVE SAN FRANCISCO

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 9408

E.L 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TQ, JA EAID

SUBJ: MICRONESIAN CLAIMS: SPECIAL PAYMENT FOR PONAPEANS

REF: A) TOKYO 3345 B) STATUS LNO 199C (JUL 1, 1974), C)

STATE 047663

CINCPACREP GUAM/TTPI PASS TO STATUS LNO TRENT, SAIPAN

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

COMTWELVE FOR AMBASSADOR WILLIAMS

SUMMARY: IN FURTHER DISCUSSION WITH FONOFF REGARDING GOJ
PLAN TO "UNOFFICIALLY" REACH SETTLEMENT OF CLAIMS ISSUE
WITH PONAPEANS (AND DANNY LOPEZ), IT WAS CLEAR THAT FONOFF
CONSIDERED ITS EARLIER CONVERSATION WITH EMBASSY AS FORE-
WARNING TO USG THAT GOJ WAS ATTEMPTING SETTLEMENT ALONG
THOSE LINES. PROPOSAL STILL IN PROCESS OF IMPLEMENTATION,
WITH FINAL AGREEMENT YET TO BE OBTAINED. EMBASSY
REITERATED DESIRE FOR CLOSEST POSSIBLE COORDINATION
AND CONSULTATION ON GOJ-MICRONESIAN CONTACTS.END
SUMARY.

1. AFTER RECEIVING STATUS LNO REPORT OF FONOFF

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DISCUSSIONWITH TTPI OFFICIALS ON POSSIBLE SPECIAL GOJ

COMPENSATORY PAYMENT TO PONAPEANS (REF B), EMBOFF CALLED ON FIRST NA DIV DEP DIRECTOR NUMATA TO DISCUSS CASE AND TO REITERATE USG CONCERN OVER GENERAL PROBLEM OF COORDINATION WITH US OF GOJ CONTACTS WITH MICRONESIANS. NUMATA CONSIDERS THAT EARLIER CONVERSATION WITH EMBASSY (REF A), OUTLINING PROPOSED ATTEMPT TO SETTLE ISSUE WITH PONAPEANS, ALERTED USG TO GOJ PLANS. MOREOVER, DESPITE FONOFF HANAKA'S HAVING GIVEN TTPI OFFICIALS A COPY OF LETTER TO PONAPEANS FROM PARLIAMENTARY VICE FOMIN YAMADA, WHOLE SCHEME IS STILL IN EARLY STAGES OF IMPLEMENTATION. NOTABLY, FONOFF HAS HELD DISCUSSIONS WITH DANNY KOPEZ' CHIEF DIET SUPPORTER, JSP DIETMAN HIDEO DEN, AND GAINED HIS SUPPORT OF FONOFF'S PROPOSAL AND HIS AGREEMENT TO SERVE AS INTERMEDIARY WITH LOPEZ AND THE PONAPEANS. IF LATTER AGREES, DEN WILL BE CHANNEL FOR FORWARDING COMPENSATORY FUNDS AND YAMADA'S LETTER TO LOPEZ AND, ULTIMATELY, TO SIX PONAPEAN CHIEFS. LOPEZ' CONCURRENCE HAS NOT YET BEEN OBTAINED BUT, PRESUMABLY SOME ANSWER WILL BE FORTHCOMING PRIOR TO AUGUST 9 WHEN LOPEZ' VISA EXPIRES. AS PART OF DEAL, DEN HAS AGREED TO MAKE NO RPT NO FURTHER ATTEMPT TO EXTEND LOPEZ'S VISA.

2. AFTER NUMATA MADE THIS EXPLANATION, EMB OFF ACKNOWLEDGED THAT EMBASSY (AND USG) HAD BEEN ALERTED TO SCHEME BUT, DRAWING ON REF C, REITERATED OUR DESIRE FOR CLOSEST POSSIBLE COORDINATION ON CONTACTS BETWEEN GOJ AND MICRONESIANS. SPECIFICALLY, WE WOULD HAVE WISHED THAT EMBASSY AND STATUS LNO HAD BEEN FOREWARNED THAT HANAKA PLANNED TO DISCUSS PROPOSAL FOR RESOLVING PONAPEAN CLAIMS WITH TTPI OFFICIALS.

3. COMMENT: FONOFF HAS BEEN COOPERATIVE ON VAST MAJORITY OF MICRONESIAN ISSUES AND OBVIOUSLY UNDERSTANDS OUR POINT IN THIS INSTANCE. HOWEVER, GOJ CONTINUES TO FEEL IT NECESSARY TO PURSUE ITS UNOFFICIAL CHANNELS FOR SETTLEMENT OF THE PONAPEAN CLAIMS TO DEFUSE OPPOSITION PRESSURE AT HOME. WE BELIEVE THE JAPANESE WILL INFORM US FULLY ABOUT THESE CONTACTS AS LONG AS WE KEEP REMINDING FONOFF THAT WE ARE AWARE OF THEM. WE DOUBT, HOWEVER, THAT WE

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WILL FORESTALL ALL SUCH QTE UNOFFICIAL UNQTE CONTACTS AND TRANSACTIONS, OR THAT IT IS REALISTIC FOR US TO EXPECT JAPANESE TO VOLUNTEER INFORMATION IN EVERY CONTACT IN ADVANCE.

HODGSON

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